DELAWARE CITY WATER QUALITY REPORT

We are very pleased to provide you with this annual water quality report for 2002. We're also pleased to report that Delaware City drinking water meets or exceeds all the standards for reportable substances. You will see that substances such as iron, chloride, and sodium are commonly found in drinking water. They occur naturally and, at trace levels, are not harmful to drink. The report shows at what levels these substances were found during tests conducted from Jan. 1, 2002-Dec. 31, 2002, unless otherwise specified. If you have any questions about this report and the quality of your water, please contact Paul Morrill, City Manager at (302) 834-4573. If you wish to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings of Mayor & Council held the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The water serving your home comes from the Potomac aquifer via 2 wells at depths of 720 and 737 feet. This aquifer is confined and protected from the influence of past farming activities and saltwater intrusion. DNREC's source water assessment plan is currently under review by the EPA. Copies can be obtained by calling DNREC at (302) 739-6330.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline mentioned above.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations established limits for contaminants in bottle water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

90th PERCENTILE - A calculation based upon averaging the 4th and 5th highest lead/copper readings, used to determine compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule.
ACTION LEVEL - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL - the "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL - the "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
NON-DETECTS (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
NOT REGULATED (N/R) - no MCL identified because this substances is unregulated.
PARTS PER MILLION (PPM) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.
PICOCURIES PER LITER (pCi/l) - a measure of radioactivity in water.

Delaware City 2002 Data

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Parameter	Unit of Measure	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Detected	Annual Range	Violation?	Major Sources
Regulated Contaminants							
Fluoride	ppm	4	0.8	0.17	0.13 – 0.17		Naturally occurring in soil
Alpha emitters (Radiological), 2000 Data	pCi/l	15	0	0.06			Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants							
Alkalinity, Total	ppm	n/r		80	78 – 80		
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	n/r	0	1.44	nd – 1.44		By-product of disinfection
Chloride	ppm	250	250	19.3	18.8 – 19.3		
Chlorine, Free Residual	ppm	4	4	0.60	0.16 – 0.60		By-product of disinfection
Chlorodibromomethane	ppb	n/r	0	1.98	nd – 1.98		By-product of disinfection
Chloroform	ppb	n/r	0	0.92	nd – 0.92		By-product of disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	n/r	0	0.74	nd – 0.74		By-product of disinfection
Hardness, Total	ppm	n/r		10			
Iron	ppb	300	300	0.19	0.16 – 0.19		
pH, Field	0-14 scale	n/r	7.3	7.4			
Sodium	ppm	n/r	50	52	47 – 52		
Solids, Total Dissolved	ppm	500	500	142	136 - 142		
Lead & Copper		Action Level		90th Percentile			
90th Percentile Lead	ppb	15	0	3	nd - 4		Corrosion of household plumbing systems,
Number of Sites Exceeding Lead 90th Percentile				0			Erosion of natural deposits
90th Percentile Copper	ppb	1,300	0	1070	21 - 2240		Corrosion of household plumbing systems,
Number of Sites Exceeding Copper 90th Percentile				2			Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform	Absent results in 100 % of samples collected						